

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 8 and 17 have been cancelled. Thus, claims 1, 4-7, 9, 13-15, 19, 20 and 22-29 are now active in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In item 7 on page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner kindly indicated that claims 1, 4-7, 9, 13-15, 17, 19, 20, 22-24 and 25-29 are allowed. Accordingly, in order to expedite allowance of this application, claims 8 and 17 (rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph) have been cancelled, thereby leaving only the allowed claims.

Next, in item 3 on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action, the drawings were objected to because the first and second sections of the vent hole were not individually identified with their own reference numerals. The Examiner kindly suggested amending Figs. 1, 2 and 5 to show reference numerals 49a and 49b respectively designating a first part and a second part of the vent hole 49. The Examiner suggested that, in the case of Fig. 2 “which only shows the first part of the vent hole”, the figure be amended to include a designation using numeral 49b. However, in Fig. 2, the upper portion of the vent hole 49 is the second part 49b, and the lower portion of the vent hole 49 is the first part 49a, as illustrated in the replacement Fig. 2 submitted herewith.

Thus, submitted herewith are replacement drawing sheets for Figs. 1, 2 and 5, each now including reference numerals 49a and 49b specifically identifying the first part and second part, respectively, of the vent hole 49. Approval and entry of these replacement drawing sheets are respectfully requested.

Next, in item 4 on page 3 of the Office Action, the disclosure was objected to because “the specification lacks specific disclosure regarding features of a vent hole that are clearly shown in Figures 1 and 5, and form the basis for the subject matter of the instant amendments to claims 1 and 13.” In order to overcome this objection, the specification is amended by adding reference numerals 49a and 49b into the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 10 to properly designate the “first part” and the “second part” of the vent hole 49.

Thus, in view of the above amendments, and also in view of the Examiner’s kind indication of the allowable subject matter in items 7 on page 4 of the Office Action, it is submitted that the application is now clearly in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Koichi TSUCHIYA et al.

/Charles R Watts/

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